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DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

# Central Intelligence Bulletin

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\*Vietnam: (Information as of 4:30 AM EST)

The Military Situation in South Vietnam: Allied forces fought several sharp engagements this week end with Communist units in widespread sections of South Vietnam.

The heaviest action occurred in the highlands west of Plei Djereng Special Forces camp near the Cambodian border. An estimated two Viet Cong/North Vietnamese Army companies attacked a South Vietnamese paramilitary company conducting a reconnaissance patrol. Two companies from the US 25th Infantry Division participating in nearby Operation PAUL REVERE IV reinforced the South Vietnamese unit and was in heavy contact for more than seven hours. One hundred sixty-six Communist troops were reported killed, as against friendly casualties of 21 killed (20 US) and 52 wounded (47 US).

In coastal Quang Ngai Province, elements of the 2nd South Korean (ROK) Marine Brigade were attacked on 20 November by an estimated Viet Cong company during the conduct of Operation DRAGON EYE approximately 10 miles northwest of Quang Ngai City. Enemy losses in the ensuing fire-fight were placed at 91 killed, in contrast to ROK casualties of 11 killed and 16 wounded.

Significant fighting was also reported southwest of Saigon in the Mekong Delta province of Kien Hoa. A US-advised South Vietnamese Popular Forces company killed 60 members of a Communist force of undetermined strength during an eight-hour battle some 21 miles southeast of the provincial capital of Truc Giang (Ben Tre). Government losses were moderate.

MACV has accepted the headquarters of the 7th North Vietnamese Army (NVA) Division into the ''possible'' category of its order of battle for Communist

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main force units in South Vietnam.

The 141st and 250th Regiments are currently carried in Phuoc Long Province; the 101st Regiment has apparently been deployed to Tay Ninh Province largely in an effort to reinforce the Viet Cong 9th Division in its defense of War Zone "C" against allied Operation ATTLEBORO. The total strength of the suspected 7th Division is 4,800 men.

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\*Togo: The army staged a non-violent coup d'etat last night and now appears to be in control in Lome.

Army chief of staff Etienne Eyadema

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probably decided to act on his own when President Grunitzky yesterday dismissed almost the entire cabinet and announced plans to invite representatives of the opposition Togo Unity Party (UT) to participate in a new government. UT demonstrations in support of the coup are now in progress in several locations.

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#### NOTES

Jordan: Popular agitation continues against the regime of King Husayn. Further demonstrations have occurred in cities in west Jordan but security police have been able to maintain control. Military officers are still pressing the government to strike back at Israel.

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Ecuador: The position of provisional president Arosemena remains extremely shaky, although he has strengthened it somewhat in the past two days. After initial difficulties, Arosemena has now almost completed formation of his cabinet.

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Street demonstrations have slackened over the week end, but they will probably pick up today.

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Venezuela: A resurgence of guerrilla terrorism in recent weeks is probably the work of dissident Communists who oppose the party's decision to subordinate armed struggle to political action. In the latest incidents, the guerrillas blew up an oil pipeline on 18 November, and attacked two isolated towns southeast of Caracas. Without party support, this terrorist campaign is not likely to reach the serious proportions posed by the Communist violence from 1962-65.

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